



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Tadashi HAYAMIZU

Group Art Unit : 2852

Serial No : 10/654,880

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

Filed : September 5, 2003

Confirmation No. : 6638

For : IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement that was filed on December 11, 2003, Applicants submit herewith a copy of an International Search Report from the European Patent Office that was mailed on January 5, 2004, with regard to International Patent Application No. PCT/JP03/11509, in which the European Patent Examiner cited the following documents:

U.S. Patent No. 6,323,939 to SUZUKI, which issued on November 27, 2001;

U.S. Patent No. 6,130,762 to HWANG et al., which issued on October 10, 2000;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. SHO 58-118666, which was published on July 14, 1983, together with an English language Abstract of the same; and

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2001-294369, which was published on October 23, 2001, together with an English language Abstract of the same.

The category of relevance, pertinent portions, and claims to which each document is relevant, as ascertained by the European Examiner applying European rules to the European

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claims are set forth in the International Search Report.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the U.S. patents are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above materials and cite the documents. Copies of the Japanese patent documents are attached along with a copy of the International Search Report, and all of the documents have been listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the instant application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted materials. However, if an Office Action on the merits has issued and is crossing this statement in the mail, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fee necessary to ensure consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p), to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

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Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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Form PTO-1449						U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office						Atty. Docket No. P24176				Serial No. 10/654,880			
<div style="text-align: center;"></div>										Applicant Tadashi HAYAMIZU									
										Filing Date September 5, 2003				Group 2852					
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS																			
EXAMINER INITIAL				DOCUMENT NUMBER						DATE		NAME		CLASS		SUBCLASS		FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
				6 3 2 3 9 3 9						11/27/01		SUZUKI							
				6 1 3 0 7 6 2						10/10/00		HWANG et al.							
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS																			
				DOCUMENT NUMBER						DATE		COUNTRY		CLASS		SUBCLASS		TRANSLATION YES NO	
		58 -		1 1 8 6 6 6						07/14/83		JAPAN							
		2001 -		2 9 4 3 6 9						10/23/01		JAPAN							
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)																			
		1		English Language Abstract of JP 58-118666.															
		2		English Language Abstract of JP 2001-294369.															
EXAMINER										DATE CONSIDERED									
*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.																			